

# Project Proposal

**Proposal Title:** Johnson Draw Chaining

**Proposal Number:** 1323

**DWR Region:** Northeastern Region

**Lead Agency:** DWR

**County:** Uintah

**Project Manager:** Joe Cresto

**PM Phone:** 4356370041

**Regional Priority:** High

**Project Type:** Terrestrial Habitat

**Proposed Start Date:** 10/1/2009

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**Project Location:** Approximately 24 miles south of the Ouray National Wildlife Refuge

**Project Description:** Aerial seed 80 acres of sagebrush and pinyon/juniper followed by chaining the sagebrush one way, and chain two way on the pinyon and juniper, and then lop and scatter for total kill of pinyon/juniper

**Description of Problem/Need:** The sagebrush in this area is very dense, and has very few grasses and forbs in the understory. Pinyon and juniper have also encroached into much of the sagebrush. A project is needed to thin the sagebrush and the pinyon and juniper and then seed with grasses, forbs and shrubs. This will improve Greater Sage-grouse brooding habitat and critical mule deer winter habitat. It also will improve habitat for Elk and American bison.

**Objectives:** 1) Improve Sage-grouse habitat quality and vegetation cover, by restoring grasses and forbs into the understory. 2) Create better nesting and brood rearing habitat for Greater Sage-grouse. 3) Improve critical mule deer winter habitat, substantial elk winter habitat, and American bison habitat.

**Relevance to Strategic Plans:** The area habitat is comprised of Shrubsteppe, Pinyon-juniper, and high desert scrub. These habitat types are key habitats listed in the Utah Wildlife Action Plan (WAP). The Greater sage grouse is a Tier 2 species in the Utah (WAP). This area is crucial brooding habitat for sagegrouse. Mule deer is a tier 3 species in the Utah (WAP). This area is a critical habitat area for mule deer use during the winter season.

**Potential Risks:** Possible increase in annuals

**Proposed Methods:** In September-October aerial seed grasses and forbs onto the sagebrush and pinyon/juniper in the treatment area, followed by chaining, and then back chain on the pinyon and juniper. Then aerial seed again with sagebrush seed in December. And then in the spring hand crews with chainsaws will then lop and scatter for total kill of pinyon/juniper.

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**Shapefile Name:** HPD 2010\GIS Shape Files - Proposals\NER\1323.shp

**Seed Source:**

**UPCD Reg Team Coord Date:** 1/20/2009

**Proposed NEPA Action:**

**Proposed Arch Action:**

☒ **Vegetation Monitoring** ☐ **Wildlife Monitoring**

**Monitoring Information:** If possible establish a range trend study on the site. As well as photo points that will be monitored yearly for three years.

**Grazing Management:** The area has not been grazed for many years. The area and surrounding BLM area is part of a sheep grazing allotment. However, the permittee has not grazed the area and the landowner would like to leave this area habitat for wildlife use.

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## SPECIES BENEFITING

Greater Sage-grouse	Mule Deer	Elk	Pronghorn
American Bison			

## LAND OWNERSHIP

Owner	Acres
Private	80
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>

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## PROPOSED FUNDING

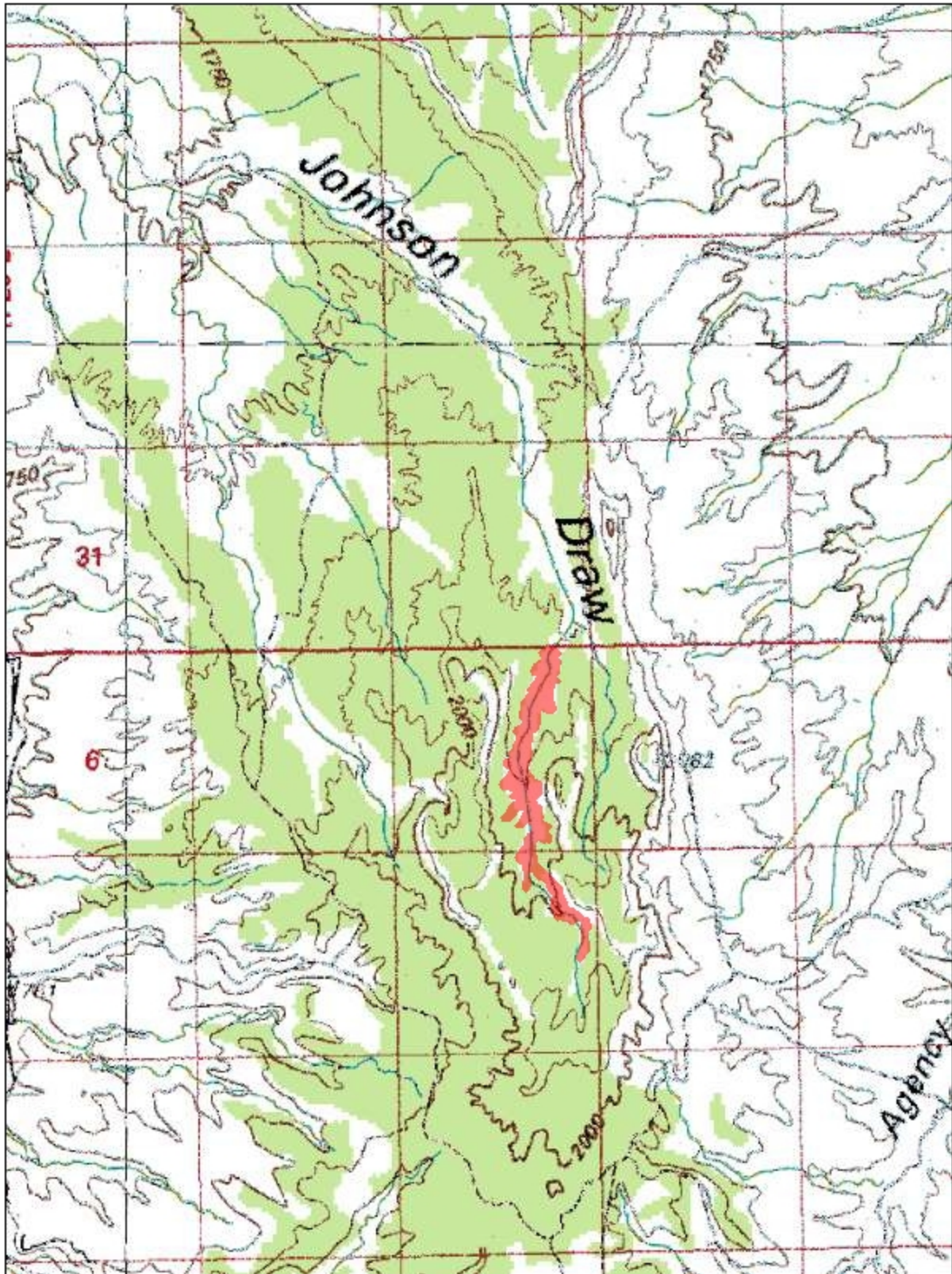
Source	Amount Requested	Date Approved	Amount Approved
Unfunded Balance	\$10,160.00		\$0.00
Private	\$10,800.00		\$0.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$20,960.00</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>

## PROPOSED BUDGET

Item	Description	DWR Account	Partner Contrib.
Archaeological Survey		\$2,560.00	\$0.00
Seed (GBRC)		\$6,400.00	\$0.00
Contractual Services	Chaing, lop and scatter, pilot, and plane	\$0.00	\$10,800.00
Contractual Services	Pilot/plane @ \$15/acre	\$1,200.00	\$0.00
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$10,160.00</b>	<b>\$10,800.00</b>

## Project Map:

# Johnson Draw Chaining



0.8 0.4 0 0.8 Miles



## Legend



Project area